

THE MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP (MMUF) PROGRAM  
AT BARNARD COLLEGE

**APPLICATION FORM**  
**DUE DATE: April 1, 2009**

NAME:

STUDENT I.D.#:

CURRENT COLLEGE ADDRESS AND EMAIL:

SUMMER/CELL TELEPHONE NUMBER:

INTENDED MAJOR:

TWO FACULTY MEMBERS WITH WHOM WE CAN DISCUSS YOUR  
CANDIDACY:

I affirm that 1) I am a U.S. citizen or legally a permanent resident; 2) I am committed to preparing an application to a Ph.D. program; 3) all statements in this application are, to the best of my knowledge, correct.

Signature      Date

**Please attach to this application form:**

**1) A brief essay of 2-3 pages (500 words) outlining the reasons why you would like to go to graduate school and pursue a career in academia.**

**2) A personal statement of 3 pages (500 to 750 words) explaining how your personal goals reflect the commitment to diversity exemplified by Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, for whom the MMUF Program is named. You will find a brief biography of Dr. Mays at the MMUF website (<http://www.mmuf.org/about-mmuf/dr-benjamin-e-mays-biography>).**

**3) A graded sample of your work, either a paper or other formal assignment such as a lab report, preferably with comments from the professor, which represents your best academic work.**

Please mail or submit his application by **Wednesday, April 1, 2009** to:  
Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program  
c/o Professor Monica Miller and Dean Vivian Taylor  
Barnard College  
ASEP Office—9 Milbank  
3009 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027

## **THE MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP (MMUF) PROGRAM**

### **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR BARNARD COLLEGE**

With funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Barnard College has established a fellowship program (the MMUF program) for promising undergraduates considering graduate study toward the Ph.D. in selected fields. Under the terms of the Mellon grant, participation in the program is open to talented undergraduates who are US citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. who demonstrate a commitment to diversity and diversifying the academy. Students must be planning graduate study toward the PhD in: **American or English Literatures, Anthropology, Area Studies (e.g. Middle Eastern Studies or Africana Studies), Art History, Classics, Computer Science, Demography, Earth Sciences, Ecology, Ethnomusicology, Foreign Languages and Literatures, Geology, History, Mathematics, Musicology, Philosophy, Physics, Political Theory, Religion, Sociology.**

The goal of the Barnard MMUF program is to engage gifted undergraduates, selected during the spring term of the sophomore or junior year, in the process of research and other important facets of academic life, thereby encouraging their interest in academic careers. The program is structured to address two issues contributing to the low numbers of students who pursue Ph.D.s: (1) lack of familiarity with the nature of academic careers, and (2) relatively high undergraduate loan indebtedness. Under this program, promising candidates will be identified and helped to establish mentoring relationships with members of the Barnard (or Columbia) faculty. To overcome any disincentive to pursue an academic career caused by high undergraduate loan indebtedness, participants who pursue a Ph.D. in one of the designated fields will be eligible to have up to \$10,000 of their undergraduate guaranteed student loans repaid by the Mellon Foundation.

Students can be awarded the fellowship during the end of their sophomore or junior year in college. The program begins with a week-long summer research workshop (tentatively scheduled for early July 2009) that will pair students with graduate students (and former MMUF fellows). During this workshop, students will prepare a prospectus on a research topic of their choice, work on public speaking and presentation skills, discuss topics such as the importance of mentorship, the graduate school application process (including testing), work/life issues specific to women in the academy, and diversity issues within the academy. During the academic year, students will work with a faculty member on a research project, or serve as a research assistant with the faculty member. There will be bi-monthly meetings for current MMUF fellows in which students present their ongoing research and participate in activities that promote graduate school success and further serve to demystify academic life.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The Barnard MMUF program is directed by Professor Monica Miller ([mmiller@barnard.edu](mailto:mmiller@barnard.edu)) and Dean Vivian Taylor ([vtaylor@barnard.edu](mailto:vtaylor@barnard.edu)), who will review the applications and interview each candidate. Participants will be chosen on the basis of their academic performance, level of interest in pursuing graduate study toward the Ph.D., and overall promise as scholars.

Please mail or submit his application by **Wednesday, April 1, 2009** to:

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program  
c/o Professor Monica Miller and Dean Vivian Taylor  
Barnard College  
ASEP Office—9 Milbank  
3009 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027